

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/01789

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : D06P 5/26

US CL : 8/467-470

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 8/467-470, 8/471

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
WEST-APS, USOCR

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 6,111,048 A (ASAHIWA et al) 29 Aug 2000 (29.09.2000) col 1 lines 26-33, 50-52	1-50
A	US 4,402,405 A (FULLALOVE) 06 Sept 1983 (06.09.1983) col 3 line 50-col 4 line 16	1-50
A	US 4,565,842 A (Fitzer et al) 21 Jan 1986 (21.01.1986)	1-50
Y	US 5,284,918 A (Haynh_Tran) 08 Feb 1994 (08.02.1994) col 1 lines 34-36, col 2 lines 50-54	1-50
A	US 4,351,871 A (LEWIS et al.) 09 Sept 1982 (09.28.1982)	1-50
Y	US 6,143,115 A (Sammis) 07 Nov 2000 (07.11.2000) see abstract, col 1, line 41 and line 64 col 4 lines 12-14	1-50
Y	US 4,037,008 A (Tugwell) 19 July 1977 col 4 lines 30-43	1-50

<input type="checkbox"/>	Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.	<input type="checkbox"/>	See patent family annex.
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* Special categories of cited documents:	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"&"	document member of the same patent family
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
10 April 2003 (10.04.2003)	
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231	Authorized officer Margaret Einsmann
Facsimile No. (703)305-3230	Telephone No. 703-308-0661